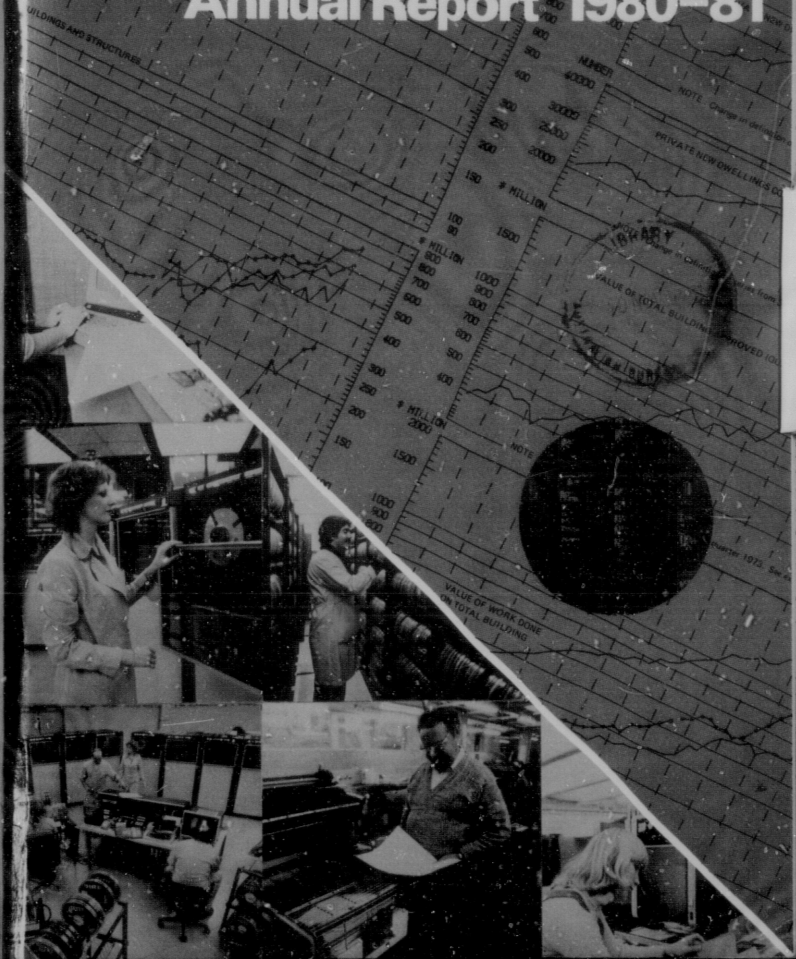


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Australian Bureau of Statistics Annual Report 1980-81



Australian Bureau of Statistics

Annual Report 1980-81



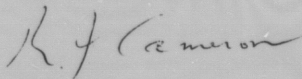
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The Honourable John Howard, M.P.
Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia

In accordance with the provisions of section 24(1) of the *Australian Bureau of Statistics Act 1975*, I hereby submit to you, for presentation to Parliament, this Report for the year ended 30 June 1981.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'R.J. Cameron'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

R.J. Cameron
Australian Statistician

27 August 1981

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Note: In this Report, after the first reference, the Australian Bureau of Statistics is referred to as the ABS or the Bureau, and the Australian Statistics Advisory Council as ASAC or the Council.

1 INTRODUCTION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics is the central statistical authority for the Commonwealth Government and, under agreements between the Commonwealth and the States, provides statistical services for the State Governments. The principal legislation determining its functions and responsibilities is the following:

- . *Australian Bureau of Statistics Act 1975*
- . *Statistics (Arrangements with States) Act 1956*
- . *Census and Statistics Act 1905*

Under the *Australian Bureau of Statistics Act 1975* the Australian Statistician is required to submit to the Treasurer, for presentation to Parliament, an annual report on the operations of the Bureau. This is the sixth annual report by the Australian Statistician.

A highlight of the Bureau's activities during 1980-81 was the conduct of the census of population and housing on 30 June 1981. Early indications are that the extensive involvement of the community in the development phase and an effective public awareness campaign in the weeks immediately before and after census day have contributed significantly to a successful census. Another major project was the retail census conducted in respect of 1979-80, which collected a wide range of detailed figures on the growth and pattern of retail trading and on the structure of the industry.

Fifteen proposals for new collections of statistical data (eight of which were in response to requests from individual States) were tabled in Parliament during 1980-81; details are shown in Appendix 1. Among the new collections was a survey of handicapped persons designed to coincide with the International Year of Disabled Persons.

As part of the ongoing process of reviewing existing collections against the priorities accorded to demands for new statistics, the ABS reduced substantially the data collected in the import orders survey and reduced from monthly to quarterly the frequency of the overtime survey. A number of other collections were retained only after strong representations by users.

The Review of Commonwealth Functions resulted in a number of decisions relating to the ABS; details are in Appendix 2. A considerable number of small collections have been discontinued, the frequency of others reduced and reviews of still others are in progress. A proposed survey of labour costs was not proceeded with.

During the year the ABS again benefited from the deliberations of the Australian Statistics Advisory Council, the activities of which are outlined in the Council's annual report.

2 MINIMISING REPORTING BURDEN

One of the major concerns of the ABS is to maintain a balance between meeting the statistical needs of government, business and other sectors of the community and keeping within reasonable limits the reporting burden imposed on those who supply the basic data. The task is to contain the amount of statistical collection to what is really needed and, within that constraint, to minimise as far as possible the reporting burden.

The starting point is scrutiny of the purposes of statistical collections. Each proposal to the ABS for a new collection and all existing collections are subject to careful examination in the ABS forward planning process to determine whether:

- . the user need for the data justifies the collection;
- . the frequency sought is justified, having regard to the variability of the data and the use to be made of it;
- . data suitable for users' needs is not already available from some other source;
- . the required data cannot be obtained by arranging to access information within an administrative system;
- . the required data cannot be produced with less respondent burden by modifying an existing collection rather than instituting a new collection; and
- . the new data requirements of the users do not reflect a shift in overall needs or priorities such that an existing data collection can be eliminated or reduced in size.

In respect of statistical collections from persons and households, respondent burden is minimised by:

- . limiting the number of questions asked in the population census and devoting a lot of effort to formulating questions so that they can be readily understood and easily answered; and
- . seeking other data by interviews with very small samples of households, by rotating samples so that the effort involved is widely spread and by taking trouble over the wording and sequencing of questions.

In respect of businesses the problem takes different forms because businesses vary so much in size and other characteristics. But similar efforts are made to limit, to the maximum extent possible, the number of businesses to which questionnaires are addressed, by:

- . using sampling techniques rather than complete coverage;
- . using size cut-offs, or other coverage restrictions, in order to exclude from collections those businesses which in total do not have a significant effect on the important statistical aggregates produced by the collections, or which can be adequately accounted for in some other way;
- . using 'short' forms to avoid asking smaller businesses to provide all the detail needed from larger businesses;
- . using forms 'tailored' specifically to the known activities of each individual business, thus reducing the size of forms by eliminating items not relevant to that business; and
- . restricting editing and query action in proportion to the potential effects of reporting errors on the important statistical aggregates produced by the collections.

Also, efforts are made to make it as easy as possible for businesses to supply the information sought. Questionnaires are designed, tested with respondents and revised as necessary to try to ensure that statistical units are defined and questions are framed in such a way that businesses can answer the questions from the kinds of records normally kept in that industry or type of activity.

In appropriate cases advance notice is provided to businesses regarding the specific data that the ABS intends to collect, so that the necessary records may be maintained. Wherever appropriate, businesses are advised that, if actual figures are not available, the ABS is willing to accept careful estimates, or even figures relating to a different time period if they are reasonable approximations to the figures requested. In a few instances, interviewers have been used to assist small businesses to provide the information needed for particular, infrequent collections.

It should be emphasised that the ABS accounts for only a small part of the total paperwork requirements generated by the government on businesses. An ABS survey of small businesses in 1978 showed that statistical collections accounted for only 2.6% of the total perceived cost to them of all government paperwork, and the ABS is not the only government organisation collecting statistical data from businesses.

Of course objectives of the kind discussed above are often in conflict. For example, sample surveys are attractive in terms of response burden and may make possible collections in detail or frequency not possible with complete enumerations; but the resulting statistics will be subject to sampling errors, which may be substantial for the small States or for regions of the larger States. As another example, the desire to limit the number of respondents in a survey conflicts with the desire to spread the burden by periodically rotating the small businesses (or households) selected, or by avoiding the selection of small businesses for more than one survey at a time. The eventual outcome in each case has to be a compromise between different aims.

One final point is that the attitude of households and businesses to being asked for information for statistical purposes depends to a degree on their understanding and acceptance of the purposes for which the statistics are sought. As indicated elsewhere in this report, the Bureau's ability to mount a public awareness campaign appears to have contributed to the widespread acceptance of the population census. In population surveys the face-to-face contact between interviewers and householders provides the opportunity for direct explanations of the reasons for collections.

Most collections from businesses are by questionnaires sent through the mail and call for different techniques of communication. Opportunities are taken in the course of form design and testing to explain the reasons why collections are undertaken and who it is that will use the statistics resulting from a particular collection. Efforts are made to have explanations of collections included in trade journals and industry association publicity.

The ABS is conscious of the need to be sensitive to community and business attitudes to providing information. Those attitudes, the staff and funds available to the Bureau, and the information needs of all sectors of the community are the three basic elements which go to determine the changing work program which the ABS undertakes.

3 ECONOMIC STATISTICS

Economic statistics produced by the ABS are derived largely from economic censuses and surveys. The censuses are designed to provide detailed information on industry structure and to facilitate valid comparisons across geographical areas and between different industries. The surveys of selected businesses are designed to provide timely and regular indicators of economic activity.

Economic censuses and surveys are important sources of data for national accounts estimates and input-output tables. This is especially true of censuses and surveys which deal with the production and consumption of goods and services and associated capital formation. The national accounts require data on establishments and commodities for analysis of production, consumption and capital formation, and data on enterprises for the preparation of income and outlay accounts and capital accounts.

(a) National accounts

The system of national accounts presents, in a systematic and comprehensive way, details of economic transactions that take place in the Australian economy and between Australia and the rest of the world. The usefulness of the accounts derives largely from the way in which data are brought together from virtually all available sources and presented as far as possible in a conceptually consistent way both for a given period and over time. The accounts are basically in accordance with the United Nations System of National Accounts.

To present a current picture of the national economy, the accounts are published as soon as possible after the end of each quarter, in terms of both current and constant prices. However, much of the more reliable information needed for the accounts does not become available until long after the publication of preliminary figures. Estimates for the most recent quarters are therefore based on limited data and successive revisions are necessary as additional information becomes available.

Currently a major project is under way to rebase all constant price estimates from average 1974-75 prices to average 1979-80 prices. The opportunity is also being taken to review the methodologies used in deriving the constant price estimates and new methods of deriving some constant price estimates will be implemented in the 1979-80 based series.

During the past year the adequacy of the data used in the accounts has been reviewed. In some important areas it falls considerably short of what is needed and existing collection priorities and strategies will have to be re-examined. The accuracy and reliability of estimates of national income and expenditure were reviewed in the 1979-80 Annual Report.

The first of a series of occasional papers on various aspects of national accounting has recently been released. It is entitled *Current-cost and Constant-cost Depreciation and Net Capital Stock*, and includes an outline of the sources of data and the methodology used to compile the estimates for these items.

Final input-output tables for 1974-75 were published in September 1980. They are also available on computer tape. For the purposes of compiling these tables the ABS developed a new methodology which is being further developed for use in compiling tables for later years. It will fully utilise available data for each year and enable tables to be prepared annually, rather than quinquennially as in the past.

(b) International accounts

The international accounts program produces statistics on the balance of payments and foreign investment.

A new publication, *Balance of Payments, Australia, Concepts, Sources and Methods*, was released during the year. Few comparable publications exist anywhere in the world and it has been well received by users.

The amount of detail on capital flows published in the monthly balance of payments publication has been increased. Investigations aimed at improving the methods of measuring a number of balance of payments current account items have commenced.

The estimates of travel credits and travel debits have been revised substantially, in the light of additional information becoming available. Operating procedures for the foreign investment collections, including aspects of form design and the criteria for including smaller businesses, are being reviewed with the objectives of achieving staff savings and reducing respondent burden.

A draft framework for foreign investment statistics was circulated during the year to major users, both in Australia and overseas. Reaction to the draft was favourable and the comments received are being taken into account in the preparation of a revised version. The framework provides a consistent and integrated conceptual basis for the systematic development of foreign investment statistics. It encompasses the capital account and relevant current account items of the balance of payments and sets these in the context of domestic economic statistics and international statistical standards.

(c) Foreign trade

The foreign trade program covers the compilation and dissemination of statistics of exports, imports, imports cleared for home consumption, shipping and excise.

In addition to monthly and annual publications, many special tabulations are undertaken to meet users' ad hoc requests and many users subscribe to a service which provides them with regular monthly or quarterly information on individual commodities.

Developments during the year included:

- completion of the design of a shipping and air cargo commodity statistics system for implementation from July 1982;
- continued study of the practicalities and implications of recording exports and imports according to the arrival/departure of the vessel, rather than the date on which documents are lodged (the current method); and
- continuation of work on the redesign of processing systems for implementation on the new computing equipment. It is expected that the new processing system will be in operation early in 1982.

(d) Prices

In addition to compilation of the consumer price index (CPI), the prices program includes production of the export price index and a range of wholesale price indexes relating to inputs and outputs of manufacturing industry, and materials used in the building industry.

Reweightings and review of the CPI is due for completion in mid-1982. In general, the revised weights will reflect consumers' expenditures in the year 1979-80, estimated from a variety of sources such as retail sales and production statistics. The review will include methods of weighting and pricing for particular goods and services, and the range of items to be covered.

Development of a CPI for Darwin is proceeding and publication is expected to commence in mid-1982.

A review of the price index of materials used in building other than house building was completed early in 1981. This index now includes index numbers for selected major building materials for each of the six State capital cities. A review of the price index of electrical installation materials was completed at the same time and that index has been integrated with the price index of materials used in building other than house building.

Work is continuing on the development of an import price index to replace the present inadequate index compiled by the Reserve Bank.

(e) Public finance

The major objective of the public finance program is to provide statistical information on receipts and expenditure of Commonwealth, State, Territory and local governments and their subsidiary bodies. The program includes the processing of statistical information concerning income, assets, expenditure, tax payable, etc, derived from Commonwealth taxation assessments, for use in national accounts estimates and for the statistical supplement to the annual report of the Commissioner of Taxation.

Developments during the year included:

- production of standardised and more timely financial statistics for local government authorities, to meet the needs of Commonwealth and State Grants Commissions and other government bodies concerned with the provision of financial assistance to these authorities. The initial standardised statistics, for all States and the Northern Territory, relate to 1979-80 (calendar year 1979 for New South Wales);
- continuation of a comprehensive review of requirements for public authority finance statistics and an investigation of more efficient arrangements for timely collection, processing and dissemination of data in this field; and
- work on redesigning the computer processing systems used in producing these statistics.

(f) Private finance

The private finance program covers statistics of the activities of financial institutions, with particular emphasis on banks, insurance companies, finance companies, building societies and credit unions. Several of the collections in this field are undertaken in co-operation with other authorities such as the Reserve Bank of Australia, Insurance Commissioners, and State Registrars of Building Societies or Credit Unions, and are conducted under legislation other than the *Census and Statistics Act*.

Over the past twelve months developmental effort has concentrated on finalising proposals, based on detailed investigations undertaken jointly with the Treasury and the Reserve Bank, for rationalising statistical collections from non-bank financial institutions. One of the main objectives is to attain an appropriate balance between the requirements of users for comprehensive and compatible statistics, and the need to minimise the reporting burden on financial institutions.

During 1980-81 work began on the compilation of a list of separately constituted private superannuation funds as a preliminary step towards undertaking a census of such funds.

(g) Agriculture

The agriculture program includes an annual agricultural commodity census, specific commodity surveys, and a triennial agricultural industry finance survey.

Major developments during the year included:

- . continuation of work on a new data processing system for the agricultural census and surveys, expected to provide a significantly enhanced capability to meet user requests for information; and
- . completion of a review of user requirements for agricultural finance statistics, including information on costs, revenue and indebtedness for agricultural industries. This review confirmed the requirement for an agricultural finance survey which will next be conducted in 1981-82 in respect of the 1980-81 financial year.

(h) Construction

The main projects in the construction program are:

- . a monthly building approvals collection;
- . a monthly dwelling commencements collection;
- . a quarterly building activity survey;
- . a quarterly construction (other than building) collection; and
- . a periodic survey of the construction industry.

The first periodic survey of the construction industry, which was conducted during 1979-80 in respect of the year 1978-79, has been successfully completed. Detailed results were released some months ahead of schedule and provided the first comprehensive set of data on the structure of the industry, including employment, wages and salaries, turnover, expenses, value added and capital expenditure. The use of a sample survey to obtain the information resulted in significantly lower costs, a smaller burden on respondents and more timely release of results than would have been possible if a full enumeration had been attempted.

A new system of collecting and compiling building statistics was introduced progressively during 1980-81. The new system comprises the following components:

- . a monthly building approvals series based on information on permits granted, provided by local government authorities, together with details of contracts let or day labour work approved by Commonwealth, State, semi-government and local government authorities;

- . a monthly dwelling commencements series based on information provided by local and other government authorities in respect of dwelling jobs previously notified in the approvals series; and
- . a quarterly building activity series based on a new survey, a special feature of which is the pre-listing, on the data collection forms sent to builders, of information collected from other sources, thereby reducing the reporting burden on those builders.

Some problems were encountered in implementing the revised building statistics collections, particularly in setting up the new computer system and in relating data from the previous building operations census to those from the new survey. These difficulties, which are being progressively overcome, have resulted in delays in finalising various building publications and have also affected the release of data on microfiche.

(i) Transport

The main projects in the transport program are:

- . a monthly collection of new motor vehicle registrations;
- . a monthly collection of road traffic accidents involving fatalities;
- . a quarterly survey of interstate freight movements;
- . a triennial survey of motor vehicle usage; and
- . a triennial motor vehicle census.

In addition, substantial development work is being undertaken for a survey of the transport industry to be conducted in respect of 1982-83.

Results from the most recent survey of motor vehicle usage, conducted in respect of the year ended 30 September 1979, were released progressively during 1980-81. Development work is now proceeding on the survey planned for the year ending 30 September 1982.

Other developments during the year included:

- . conduct of a major user survey in the field of transport statistics, the results of which will assist the ABS to determine development priorities in this and related fields of statistics;
- . development of a census of interstate freight movements, to be conducted in respect of 1980-81, which will provide the framework for a revised quarterly survey of interstate freight movements planned to be introduced by the end of 1982; and
- . detailed investigations into the possibility of introducing a broader range of consistent national road traffic accident statistics. In particular, work has been proceeding on the possible re-introduction of statistics on national road traffic casualties using 'admitted to hospital' as the definition of a 'casualty'.

(j) Manufacturing

The manufacturing program includes:

- . an annual census of manufacturing industries, producing figures of commodity output, employment, wages and salaries, turnover, value added and capital expenditure;
- . annual censuses of electricity and gas production and distribution industries; and
- . monthly and quarterly surveys of manufacturing production.

Computer generated forms were introduced on an Australia-wide basis for the 1979-80 manufacturing census. The benefits are two-fold. Not only is the cost significantly less than conventional printed forms but by 'tailoring' forms to correspond with the production patterns of individual businesses, on the basis of information provided in the preceding census, the size and complexity of the forms are reduced and their completion is made easier for respondents.

Comprehensive commodity reviews, in conjunction with the progressive development and maintenance of the Australian Standard Commodity Classification, were initiated in 1980-81. The first full scale review relates to the textile segment.

In response to growing interest in energy related statistics, annual censuses of electricity and gas production were introduced from 1979-80. These censuses had been conducted periodically since 1971-72, the last two relating to 1974-75 and 1977-78 respectively.

(k) Mining and energy

The mining and energy program includes:

- . an annual census of the mining industry, conducted with the co-operation of State Government mines departments; and
- . quarterly and annual mineral exploration collections.

Developments during the year included:

- . the release of quarterly and annual statistics on exploration for oil shale, providing details of actual and expected expenditure and metres drilled; and
- . in response to the growing interest in energy statistics
 - compilation of the *Directory of ABS Energy Statistics*,
 - a study in conjunction with the Department of National Development and Energy of the major statistical requirements in the field of energy, and
 - a national survey of domestic energy appliances and facilities in respect of November 1980.

(l) Internal trade

The internal trade program includes:

- . monthly and quarterly surveys of retail sales;
- . periodic censuses of the retail, wholesale and selected service industries;
- . quarterly tourist accommodation surveys; and
- . collections relating to the interstate trade of Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Developments during the year included:

- . publication in June 1981 of preliminary data from a census of retail trade and selected service industries held in respect of 1979-80. More detailed final results will be published progressively from November 1981;
- . detailed design and development of a new processing system for the monthly and quarterly retail surveys, to be introduced in January 1982; and
- . determination of data requirements for the planned 1981-82 wholesale trade collection and detailed investigations into collection methodologies.

(m) Enterprise statistics

Enterprise statistics provide information on the operations of business enterprises, and are derived mainly from the integrated economic censuses and sample surveys of key economic indicators, such as actual and expected new fixed capital expenditure, stocks, and actual and expected manufacturers' sales. A special feature of the 1980-81 collection program was the conduct of the periodic (four yearly) survey of interest, rent, royalties and dividends in respect of 1979-80, for use in the preparation of national accounting estimates.

The enterprise statistics program also embraces statistical surveys measuring the expenditure and manpower resources devoted to research and experimental development (R&D) in Australia as part of Project SCORE (Survey and Comparisons of Research Expenditures), overall responsibility for which lies with the Department of Science and Technology. The separate statistical surveys of energy R&D which are now also carried out are essentially a subset of the more general Project SCORE surveys and are conducted in respect of the reference years immediately following those for Project SCORE. Statistics produced from these surveys cover R&D activity by business enterprises, tertiary institutions, Commonwealth and State Governments, and private non-profit bodies.

(n) Classification

The objective of this program is to develop and maintain statistical classifications used in the ABS and other government agencies. The principal classifications and related standards covered by the program include industry, commodity, occupation, geographic and various economic sector classifications.

Developments during the year included:

- . completion of the 1978-79 edition of the *Australian Standard Commodity Classification* (ASCC);

- further development of the ASCC aimed at improving the comparability between statistics on production, imports and exports. It is expected that new commodity items arising from this development will be progressively included in the ASCC and its component classifications from 1981-82 onwards;
- preparation of the publication *Comparable Commodity Statistics of Production, Imports and Exports, Australia: 1978-79*;
- completion, in conjunction with the Department of Transport, of the *Australian Transport Freight Commodity Classification (ATFCC)* for use in classifying goods carried, and of a preliminary Australian pack classification for classifying the way in which goods are packaged for transport;
- commencement of a review of ABS economic sector classifications, including the private sector/public sector classification;
- commencement of the revision of the transport division of the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC)*;
- continuation of the development, jointly with the Department of Employment and Youth Affairs, of the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO)*; and
- commencement of a feasibility study for the development of a standard geographical classification and coding system.

(o) Integration of economic statistics

This program provides a service to other statistical programs by co-ordinating the planning of economic census and survey operations and establishing standard concepts and definitions. The program also includes responsibility for maintaining the integrated register of businesses, which is used to provide a framework of units for statistical collections.

Following an investigation of the register's coverage sources and updating practices, changes are currently being implemented to improve the efficiency with which the register lists are kept comprehensive and up to date. Work on redesign of the integrated register system, for transfer to the new computing equipment, progressed into the detailed design phase. The new register system will incorporate agricultural enterprises, which are currently listed on a separate register.

4 DEMOGRAPHIC, SOCIAL AND MANPOWER STATISTICS

Statistics are called for on many aspects of Australian households and the Australian people, ranging from births, deaths and marriages, through health, welfare, education, crime, employment and unemployment.

A large amount of data is collected at the quinquennial censuses of population and housing but other demographic, social and manpower statistics are derived from three major sources: by-products of administrative processes undertaken by Commonwealth and State Government departments; interviews with selected households; and surveys of businesses.

(a) Population census

Four years of extensive planning and development for the 10th national census of population and housing culminated in the conduct of the census on 30 June 1981. Information regarding these preparations has been included in earlier Annual Reports. In particular, a special article, *Preparations for the 1981 Census of Population and Housing*, appeared in the Annual Report for 1978-79.

The 1981 census proved to have widespread public acceptance. The fact that adverse reaction on the scale which had marked the 1971 and 1976 censuses did not materialise on this occasion was due in large measure to the considerable amount of consultation with the public during the earlier stages of development of the census, and a major public awareness program involving extensive press, radio and television coverage in the three months leading up to the census. The specific aims of this program were to:

- explain the measures being taken to protect confidentiality;
- explain and illustrate the important uses to which census data are put; and
- publicise the availability of assistance in completing census forms.

For the 1981 census the ABS again used personnel from the network of regional electoral offices to supervise the collection system. The collection staff comprised about 30,000 people recruited from members of the public. Preference was given to unemployed persons as temporary census collectors and assistance was sought from the Commonwealth Employment Service in referring suitable people to the ABS as applicants for these positions.

Special procedures were adopted to improve the enumeration of Aborigines and other ethnic minorities in the census.

Wherever possible, Aboriginal persons were employed as collectors and special census field officers were appointed to supervise all aspects of the collection of data from Aborigines, including recruitment and training of collectors, pre-census publicity, updating maps and checking on the mobility of groups. Extensive support was received from the National Aboriginal Conference, the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and many other organisations concerned with Aborigines. To help ensure that reliable information was collected, a special census form was developed for use with Aborigines in remote areas.

Procedures adopted for the enumeration of other ethnic groups included the use of bi-lingual collectors, the preparation and distribution of multi-lingual brochures to assist householders with language difficulties, and the wide distribution of special information sheets explaining the census in 30 languages. A telephone interpreter service was established to enable householders to obtain assistance by telephone in the completion of their forms. Special advertising was also undertaken in the various ethnic media.

A data transcription office has been established in Melbourne for coding and transcription to the computer record of the information contained in the census forms. Up to 2,000 temporary employees will be engaged on this task, which is planned for completion in June 1982.

Following extensive consultation with major users of census data, plans for the tabulation and dissemination of the results have been finalised. It is expected that the first results from the census will be released in March 1982.

(b) Demography

The demography program covers the production of estimates and projections of the Australian population and its characteristics such as age, sex and geographic distribution.

Several projections are provided, each based on different assumptions of future fertility, mortality and migration. The next set of projections is planned for the latter half of 1982. The program also includes the compilation and publication of vital statistics (births, deaths, marriages, etc) and interstate and overseas migration.

Extensive development and consultation has been undertaken in preparation for the shift to fully resident population estimates, to be implemented as from June 1981. To assist the Commonwealth Grants Commission and State Governments in their assessments of the level of demand for services by temporary residents, it is planned to expand the 1982 internal migration survey to include questions on the incidence, duration and location of temporary stays away from people's place of usual residence.

Work is currently in progress to transfer the computer processing systems for the demography program to the new ABS computer. The opportunity is being taken for a substantial redesign, which will provide a more integrated demographic data base and the ability to undertake more sophisticated analyses.

(c) Social

The objective of the social program is to provide statistics relating to health, education, crime and justice and other social matters.

A major effort was made during 1980-81 to establish a comprehensive strategy for the program over the next three years, aimed at meeting the following objectives:

- transfer of processing systems to the new computing equipment with minimum disruption to the existing statistical service;
- development of sufficient flexibility in the systems to provide statistics embodying those nationwide standards which already exist for some collections and which are under development for some others; and
- rationalisation of existing processing systems, where possible, to avoid duplication of effort.

The results of several surveys were published during the year. These included data on sight problems, dental health, health insurance, post-school education intentions, and pre-school and child care arrangements. In addition, publications containing detailed information from the 1977-78 Australian health survey were issued on chronic conditions, doctor consultations, periods spent in hospitals, days of reduced activity due to illness or injury, consultations with health professionals and recent illnesses.

The development of national crime and justice statistics continued during the year. Ultimately, a revised and expanded series of statistics relating to offences reported to police will be published.

(d) Social surveys and indicators

One of the most important surveys conducted during 1980-81 was of handicapped persons, designed to coincide with the International Year of Disabled Persons. In addition, work began on a survey of Australian families, scheduled for early 1982, which will collect information on their composition, the degree of family support received by the young, the aged and lone parents, and the extent of changes in family roles. As with the survey of handicapped persons, the ABS has sought the active participation of user bodies in the development of this survey.

Release of the publication *Social Indicators No. 3* in May 1981 marked a significant advance in the presentation of social statistics by the ABS. In course of preparation is a report on statistics relating to the aged.

The ABS has circulated to relevant Commonwealth and State authorities a discussion paper on social indicators, as requested by the Government in response to the report of the Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare *Through a Glass Darkly, Evaluation in Australian Health and Welfare Services*.

Statistics recently released of persons under guardianship and of children in substitute care are the first published results of the ABS's continuing participation with Commonwealth, State and Territory welfare authorities in the Standardisation of Social Welfare Statistics (WELSTAT) project.

In an effort to improve the reliability of social and demographic statistics, a small unit has been established to review and improve the classifications and standards in use.

(e) Manpower

The manpower program provides statistics on the components and characteristics of the labour force, such as employment and unemployment, earnings, hours of work and other working conditions, and job vacancies.

Topics surveyed during the year, in addition to the regular monthly series, included persons looking for work, discouraged jobseekers, weekly earnings of employees, persons not in the labour force, labour force experience during 1980, labour mobility, the educational attainment of persons in the labour force, and leavers from educational institutions.

A special survey conducted from February to May 1981 covered the distribution and arrangement of working hours, including the incidence of night work and shift work.

In July 1980 the civilian employment series was suspended because the estimates, based on payroll tax returns, had shown changes not consistent with other information. A detailed investigation of the collection was put in hand, to include the estimates of average weekly earnings which are also based on payroll tax returns.

The investigation showed that the only adequate method of providing reliable estimates of employment and earnings is to replace the present payroll-tax based series by a quarterly sample survey of about 20 000 business units in the private sector. As attempts to devise a satisfactory system based on payroll tax returns proved unsuccessful, there is no alternative but to initiate a new collection of information from businesses. The number of employers included in the sample from whom returns will be collected will be kept to the smallest number consistent with obtaining reliable

statistics. The information to be collected will be kept as simple as possible to enable it to be extracted from business records. Development of the new collection will take about two years to complete.

Until results are available from the employment survey, the Bureau will maintain quarterly estimates of average weekly earnings and of wages and salaries for the national accounts, by introducing a small quarterly earnings survey along the lines of the one now conducted annually. It will be restricted to 3,500 private employers and 1,000 government bodies and will eventually be incorporated in the larger survey.

The new series will provide an effective complement to the present monthly labour force survey figures. The monthly series on government employment is being continued.

Other developments during 1980-81 included:

- . preparation for a household survey to be conducted in 1981-82 to obtain information on alternative working arrangements;
- . publication of results of a special survey on the distribution of income in 1978-79;
- . completion of arrangements for the introduction of statistical collections of industrial accidents in the Northern Territory and, in 1981-82, the Australian Capital Territory;
- . further progress in standardising concepts and improving the coverage of existing industrial accident statistics;
- . provision of data to, and participation in, a Steering Committee set up by the Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research to investigate labour force gross flows; and
- . continued participation in the OECD Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics.

5 OTHER ACTIVITIES

(a) Computer re-equipment

The first two phases of the installation of new computing equipment have been completed. The first comprised a central processing unit and associated facilities and became operational for training and developmental work in September 1980. The hardware installed under the second phase, which consists principally of additional memory, disk storage and enhancements to the bulk storage device became operational in June 1981. It is planned to install further main memory, brought forward from the third phase, later this year. The remainder of the hardware, which will include the remaining disk and bulk storage capacity and the second central processing unit, is to be installed in mid-1982.

An interim network to connect the Bureau's offices in all State capital cities to the central computing installation in Canberra was installed on schedule during the latter half of 1980. Detailed planning for the final network has reached an advanced stage and developmental work is well under way. The first version of the final network is scheduled for installation in 1982, followed early in 1983 by a later version containing all facilities.

In addition to the operating system and software packages purchased, several software packages especially designed for the Bureau's computing environment are at various stages of development. The first major milestone in combining these acquired and specially developed software packages into an integrated computing environment was achieved on schedule in May 1981.

Most computing personnel have received training on the new facilities and this training program will have been completed by the end of 1981. Training of other ABS staff who will use the new computing facilities is scheduled to continue until the end of 1982.

The transfer of statistical work from the previous computing equipment is being undertaken in three main stages. The first comprised the transfer of a number of small, well defined projects and was completed on schedule. The second stage, involving the transfer of the remaining projects which depend on the older equipment and which are currently undergoing statistical redesign, is scheduled for completion during 1983. The third stage, which involves the transfer of work from hardware acquired during the 1970s will commence when the second stage has been completed.

The first of the older computers, the Control Data 3600, is scheduled to be decommissioned in April 1982 and the remaining computing equipment acquired before 1970 will be decommissioned during 1983.

Staff continue to be kept informed of plans for transition to the new equipment and the way in which personnel may be affected by the change. Committees comprising representatives of management, staff and staff associations have been set up in Canberra and in each State Office of the Bureau to monitor and advise on any personnel issues arising from re-equipment.

(b) Data management

The data management project mainly involves the development of a more coherent and responsive statistical service through the improved description, organisation and usage of statistical data available within the ABS. During 1980-81 the project has continued to be concerned mainly with co-ordinating and monitoring the redesign and implementation, on the ABS's new computer equipment, of the many computer systems used in processing the great variety of statistical projects undertaken by the ABS.

The project will increasingly focus on problems relating to the description and organisation of statistical data, particularly such 'cross cutting' issues as data standards, data accuracy, the reliability of concepts, the standardisation and reliability of classifications, and methods of data organisation.

(c) Statistical methodology

As well as periodically reviewing the statistical methodology employed in its various collections, specialised units within the Bureau provide a service in field survey operations, sampling, time series analysis, and other mathematical statistical

techniques. Research is undertaken into sampling theory and the conduct of sample surveys, into the use of time series methods for model building, forecasting and seasonal adjustment, and into the use of specialised statistical techniques for analytical purposes.

Specialist services are also provided on a consultative basis to other Commonwealth and State agencies. Examples of this type of service provided during 1980-81 are:

- assistance to the Perth Metropolitan Water Board in designing a survey to collect information on the components of domestic water usage;
- assistance to the Departments of Finance and Defence in the design of a statistical sampling scheme for stocktaking in Air Force supply depots;
- assistance to the Department of Social Security with survey design and sample selection for a survey of the aged;
- assistance to the Schools Commission in developing an index of educational disadvantage, based on the 1976 census of population and housing; and
- assistance to the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs in the design and selection of a sample to undertake a study of the impact of multicultural television.

(d) Dissemination of statistics

In 1980-81 the ABS published 564 monthly, quarterly, annual or irregular titles in a total of 1 724 issues, ranging from single-sheet publications to large volumes such as *Year Book Australia*.

PUBLICATIONS ISSUED DURING 1980-81

	Number of Titles								Total	Number of issues
	Canberra	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT		
<i>Annual</i>	127	33	24	51	25	43	34	1	338	338
<i>Quarterly</i>	35	5	5	10	7	7	5	1	75	281
<i>Monthly</i>	53	7	6	6	3	7	6	—	88	1 042
<i>Other</i>	46	5	4	1	3	3	1	—	63	63
<i>Total</i>	261	50	39	68	38	60	46	2	564	1 724

A complete list of ABS publications, together with a description of their contents and a subject index, is contained in the *ABS Catalogue of Publications*, copies of which are available free of charge on request from ABS offices and bookshops of the Australian Government Publishing Service (AGPS).

Apart from the statistical material in ABS publications, a large amount of more detailed, non-confidential information is disseminated in the form of computer printout, microfiche or magnetic tape.

It is estimated that during 1980-81 the ABS answered over 150,000 ad hoc enquiries for statistical information.

(e) Co-ordination

The ABS maintains contact with Commonwealth and State government departments and authorities in order to be aware of their statistical activities, their use of existing statistical collections and their current and future statistical needs.

The Bureau also plays a continuing and active role in developing greater co-ordination of statistical activities across government agencies. In particular, it encourages the adoption of uniform standards and practices and fosters a co-ordinated approach to statistical development.

An important element of this work is the outposted officer service, through which ABS officers are located in other government departments and agencies. A complete list of departments and agencies to which ABS officers were outposted during 1980-81 is shown in Appendix 4. In addition, some officers were outposted to provide short term assistance on specific tasks for other departments.

In August 1980 a further survey was conducted of the statistical data collections conducted by Commonwealth Government departments and authorities during 1979-80. The results will be distributed to all departments and authorities which participated in the survey. Copies are available to interested organisations.

The ABS also has a direct and continuing participation in the work of statistical co-ordinating bodies set up by State Governments to monitor and co-ordinate statistical activities undertaken by State departments and agencies. This mechanism supplements direct subject-by-subject consultation with State bodies on existing or proposed new collections.

In May 1981, the ABS conducted a seminar on 'The Official Statistical Service in the 1980s' as part of the ongoing program of seminars for second division officers run by the Public Service Board. The seminar concentrated on:

- . the broad nature and direction of the demands on the official statistical service in the 1980s;
- . the adequacy of the current and planned future official statistical service to meet these demands; and
- . the constraining factors which are likely to be encountered in attempting to satisfy these demands, and how the service can cope within these constraints.

The seminar was attended by second division officers from a cross-section of Commonwealth departments. Sessions were presented by leading figures from Parliament, private industry, the press, academia and other Commonwealth and State departments as well as by senior ABS officers. The seminar proved to be a successful exercise in communication between the ABS and users and suppliers of statistics.

(f) Management services

All management services activities are subject to on-going and continuous scrutiny to ensure that efficient arrangements apply. This has resulted in significant staff reductions over the past few years. The main steps which have been taken include the following:

- . central registry functions have been reduced, placing reliance on individual managers to maintain efficient systems for their own file holdings;

- messengers services have been reduced and the responsibility for internal movement of documents placed with line managers;
- duplication of checking of staff attendance records by line supervisors and management services staff has been eliminated; sole responsibility now rests with line supervisors, subject to random checks by internal audit;
- reviews of typing and steno-secretarial services have resulted in the introduction of simplified typing, outposting of typists and greater emphasis on on-the-job training;
- word processing facilities have been introduced, and a post-implementation review is scheduled for 1981-82;
- delegations have been reviewed and a significant increase in responsibility has been allocated to State Offices; and
- where appropriate, computer-based systems have been implemented to enhance the efficiency of internal administration.

6 STAFFING AND FINANCE

(a) Staffing

Numbers of operative staff at the end of June 1975 and the three most recent financial years are shown in the following table:

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME OPERATIVE STAFF (a)

Office	June 1975	June 1979	June 1980	June 1981
Canberra	1 612	1 605	1 603	1 617
Sydney	592	495	505	491
Melbourne	485	418	416	428
Brisbane	337	316	318	325
Adelaide	257	242	233	231
Perth	235	226	226	233
Hobart	144	125	126	128
Darwin	8	18	18	24
Population Census Data Transcription Centre (Melbourne)	..	..	..	(b)28
Total	3 670	3 445	3 445	3 505

(a) Excludes staff on approved leave for periods of twelve weeks or longer.

(b) When the processing of the census is at its peak during 1981-82 about 2 000 temporary staff will be employed at this centre.

Appendix 5 shows average monthly staff numbers in each State, by statistical program, during 1980-81. Staff numbers for 1980-81 were higher than those for 1979-80 primarily because of the 1979-80 retail census (conducted in 1980-81) and the build up for the 1981 census of population and housing.

Appendix 6 shows the top structure and staff of the ABS.

(b) Finance

ABS expenditure in 1980-81 was \$87.6 million, of which \$58.0 million was on wages and salaries. Expenditure in 1981-82 is estimated to increase by \$23.0 million, mainly because of the cost of the population census.

Receipts during 1980-81 totalled \$1.5 million and came mainly from charges for computer services, special compilations of overseas trade statistics, and publications.

Details of ABS expenditure and receipts for 1979-80 and 1980-81, and estimates for 1981-82, are shown in Appendix 7.

An analysis of expenditure by program over the past three years is shown in Appendix 8. As well as giving an indication of the relative cost of various fields of statistics, the analysis shows the relative increase in resources devoted to the manpower program and, in 1980-81, the retail census.

APPENDIX 1

NEW PROPOSALS TABLED IN PARLIAMENT : 1980-81

In accordance with section 6(3) of the *Australian Bureau of Statistics Act 1975*, the following new proposals for collection of information for statistical purposes were tabled in both Houses of Parliament during 1980-81.

<i>Date tabled</i>	<i>Project</i>
27 August 1980	Survey of the Victorian pig industry
10 September 1980	Survey of labour costs 1980-81(a)
	Annual census and quarterly survey of oil shale exploration
	Survey of household appliances and sources of energy (November 1980)
	Survey of energy research and experimental development
16 September 1980	Surveys of handicapped persons, February-May 1981
17 September 1980	Supplementary survey of the manufacturing industry 1979-80
	Supplementary survey of the mining industry 1978-79
	Survey of attitudes to crime and prison rehabilitation in New South Wales (October 1980)
	Survey of domestic water using appliances in Victoria (October 1980)
	Survey of usage of health facilities in Queensland (October 1980)
	Survey of dental health in South Australia (October 1980)
	Survey of consumer problems in Western Australia (October 1980)
	Survey of home help and health care services in Tasmania (October 1980)
26 May 1981	Census of interstate freight movements

Note: Collections undertaken as supplementaries in the monthly population survey are identified by inclusion in brackets of the month in which the data were collected.

(a) Not proceeded with.

APPENDIX 2

REVIEW OF COMMONWEALTH FUNCTIONS

ABS COLLECTIONS TO BE DISCONTINUED OR REVIEWED

1 Collections to be discontinued

- . Survey of Consultancy Services Provided Overseas;
- . Price Indexes of Copper Materials used in the Manufacture of Electrical Equipment;
- . Co-operatives;
- . Unit Trusts, Land Trusts and Mutual Funds;
- . Rates Levied (NSW);
- . Municipal and Shire Elections (NSW);
- . Water Authorities (Vic);
- . Eggs Set and Chickens Hatched;
- . Tea and Coffee;
- . Poultry Slaughtering;
- . Pig Survey (Vic);
- . Transfers and Conveyances and Mortgages of Real Estate;
- . Mortgages of Real Estate (Vic);
- . Real Estate Transactions (NSW);
- . Land for Housing (NSW);
- . Sales of Land and Houses (NSW);
- . Production of Minerals and Mineral Products;
- . Boat Statistics;
- . Forestry;
- . Hunting and Trapping;
- . Boat Registration;
- . Rock Lobsters in Cold Stores (WA);
- . Newsprint Usage Survey;
- . Selected Services Industries;
- . Australian Library Services;
- . Fire Statistics (WA and NSW);
- . Workers Compensation (Vic); and
- . Birth Expectations Survey.

2 Collections to have their frequency reduced from every two years to every three years

- . Project SCORE; and
- . Survey of Energy R&D.

3 Collections to be reviewed in consultation with the States

- . 'Country Towns' Food Prices;
- . Wholesale Price of Fruit and Vegetables (WA and Qld);
- . Wholesale Prices of Fatstock and Meat (Qld);
- . Stocks of Dwellings;
- . Rail/Bus Survey;
- . Road Lengths (NSW);
- . Private Buslines (Vic);

REVIEW OF COMMONWEALTH FUNCTIONS

ABS COLLECTIONS TO BE DISCONTINUED OR REVIEWED — *continued*

- . Private Urban Bus (Qld);
- . Metal and Mineral Prices (NSW);
- . Sand, Gravel and other Quarry Material Production (Qld);
- . Registered Shops and Factories (WA);
- . Demolitions;
- . Population Estimates (Qld);
- . Probation and Parole (Qld);
- . Mental Health;
- . Perinatal Health;
- . Health and Welfare (NSW);
- . Health and Welfare (Qld);
- . Government Employment by Award (WA);
- . Workers Compensation (NSW); and
- . State Supplementaries.

4 Other collections to be reviewed

- . Survey of Selected Private Pension Funds;
- . Agricultural Census;
- . Life Insurance;
- . Catch Statistics Survey;
- . Sawmilling and Woodchipping Survey; and
- . Labour Costs Survey.

APPENDIX 3

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS PRESENTED BY ABS OFFICERS : 1980-81

During 1980-81 officers of the ABS prepared the following professional papers:

F.D. Bagley: *The Census and the Nation*. Presented to the 51st Anzaas Congress, Brisbane, May 1981.

A. R. Bagnall: *Data Availability from the Australian Bureau of Statistics*. Presented to the 8th annual conference of the Australian Urban and Regional Information Systems Association, Surfers Paradise, November 1980.

R. J. Cameron: *Administrative Aspects of the Population Census*. Presented to the ACT Group of the Australian Institute of Public Administration, Canberra, June 1981.

W.M. Chamberlain: *The Australian Bureau of Statistics as a Social Research Source*. Presented to the Urban Sociology Seminar, Department of Town and Regional Planning, University of Melbourne, July 1980.

R. Chambers and B. Doyle: *Census Evaluation in Australia*. Presented to the American Statistical Association Conference, Houston, Texas, August 1980.

M. Cleland and C. Connaughton (Computer Services of Australia): *X.25 in a Private Network*. Presented to the Digital Equipment Computer Users Society, Sydney, July 1980. Also published in CSA Technical Journal, Volume 3 No.1, December 1980.

E.K. Foreman: *Development of an Integrated Programme of Household Surveys: A Review of Major Issues*. Presented at the United Nations Statistical Office, National Household Survey Capability Programme, New York, April 1981.

E.K. Foreman: *The Design and Selection of Master Samples for Integrated Programmes of Household Survey*. Presented at the United Nations Statistical Office, National Household Survey Capability Programme, New York, April 1981.

J.E. Humphrey: *Victorian Municipalities and the Joint Victorian Grants Commission/ABS Collection*. Presented to the Local Government Education Committee Workshop for Municipal Officers, Victoria, October 1980.

T. Karmel: *Redesign of the Survey of Retail Sales*. Presented to the 5th Australian Statistical Conference, Sydney, August 1980.

D.C. Leaver: *Computing Software for Sample Surveys*. Presented to the 5th Australian Statistical Conference, Sydney, August 1980.

B.E. Leonard: *An ABS View of the Statistical Paper Burden*. Presented to the Annual General Meeting of the Local Government Association of South Australia, Adelaide, October 1980.

B.E. Leonard: *The Population Census — A Five Year Cycle*. Presented to the Australian Institute of Public Administration, Adelaide, May 1981.

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS PRESENTED BY ABS OFFICERS : 1980-81
—continued

I.S. McRae: *Analysis of Australian Household Expenditure Survey Data*. Presented to the 5th Australian Statistical Conference, Sydney, August 1980.

E.W.W. Miller: *Some Aspects of an Integrated Statistical Computing Environment*. Presented to the EDP Working Party of the Conference of European Statisticians, Geneva, May 1981.

M.J. Mulready: *Modelling Seasonal Time Series — Deterministic or Seasonal ARIMA Models or?* Presented to the 5th Australian Statistical Conference, Sydney, August 1980, and to the 4th Conference of the Simulation Society of Australia, Brisbane, August 1980.

J.R. Palmer: *Establishing an Environment for the use of ADABAS in a Statistical Organisation*. Presented to ADABAS International Users Group Conference, Florida, USA, May 1981.

N.J. Purcell: *Status of Developments in Small Domain Estimation*. Presented to the Institute of Statisticians' Annual Conference, Trinity College, Cambridge, UK, July 1980.

N.J. Purcell, N. Ferguson and J. Colwell: *The Master Sample Frame for Official Australian Household Surveys*. Presented to the 5th Australian Statistical Conference, Sydney, August 1980.

K.F. Rust: *The Statistical Treatment of Some Problems in a System of Scaled School Assessments*. Presented to the 5th Australian Statistical Conference, Sydney, August 1980.

J.F. Wilson: *Overseas Trade Statistics as Related to Customs Procedures*. Presented to the Customs Agents' Institute of Australia, Melbourne, November 1980.

APPENDIX 4

LOCATION OF OUTPOSTED ABS OFFICERS : 1980-81

Commonwealth

Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Department of Education
Department of Employment and Youth Affairs
Department of Health
Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs
Department of Industry and Commerce
Department of National Development and Energy
Department of Social Security
Department of Trade and Resources
Department of Transport
Bureau of Mineral Resources
Industries Assistance Commission

State

Victoria _ Department of Community Welfare Services(a)
South Australia _ Department of the Public Service Board

(a) Fixed term posting, terminated in November 1980.

APPENDIX 5

DISTRIBUTION OF FULL-TIME OPERATIVE STAFF: 1980-81

Program	Average monthly staff numbers, 1980-81							
	Canberra	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT Total
Executive	27	3	3	3	3	3	3	1 46
National accounts	55	2	1	..	..	..	..	58
International accounts	60	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Prices	44	14	12	9	6	9	3	3 100
Private finance	44	1	..	1	1	..	..	47
Public finance	37	12	10	9	7	5	4	1 85
Agriculture	28	36	32	24	16	19	8	.. 163
Construction	21	30	25	16	7	7	4	1 111
Transport	23	3	4	10	4	3	2	.. 49
Mining, energy and tourism	10	10	4	7	1	5	1	1 39
Manufacturing	18	37	36	14	10	10	3	.. 128
Internal trade	22	67	53	31	19	30	17	2 241
Economic censuses system	18	27	21	10	7	7	3	.. 93
Enterprise statistics	29	7	7	5	3	2	1	1 55
Classification	24	1	1	1	1	..	..	.. 28
Economic statistics integration	29	39	32	15	12	11	2	1 141
Demography	30	13	12	11	4	5	3	3 81
Social surveys and indicators	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 18
Social statistics	34	26	13	18	10	9	6	.. 116
Manpower	85	30	21	15	16	8	6	2 183
Population census	67	5	3	3	3	3	2	2 88
Foreign trade	94	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 94
Data services and analysis	29	..	..	..	1	..	..	.. 30
Statistical services	45	..	9	4	3	3	3	.. 67
Population survey operations	26	26	20	20	16	16	6	2 132
Information services	71	19	24	17	12	10	4	1 158
Computer technical services and planning	92	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 92
Computer applications	128	19	19	17	17	16	13	.. 229
Computer operations and software	175	52	42	41	27	31	23	.. 391
Co-ordination	36	4	5	4	4	1	..	.. 54
Data management	11	1	1	1	1	2	1	.. 18
Establishments and methods	23	3	2	..	1	1	..	.. 30
Finance and general services	121	42	37	24	22	16	10	1 273
Personnel management	61	14	15	10	7	8	4	1 120
Total	1 635	543	464	340	241	240	132	23 3 618

Note: Excludes staff on long service leave, maternity leave, extended sick leave, etc for periods of twelve weeks or longer. Where officers undertake duties within more than one program they have been classified to that program which occupies most of their time. The symbol .. can mean either 'less than half' or 'nil'.

Average monthly staff numbers always exceed those at 30 June because the Bureau's seasonal pattern of employment has a low point in June.

APPENDIX 6

TOP STRUCTURE AND STAFF

Australian Statistician
R.J. Cameron

Deputy Statistician
A.R. Bagnall

Division

Economic Accounts
D.W. Anderson

Demography, Social and
Manpower
F.D. Bagley

Economic Censuses and
Surveys
F.J. von Reibnitz

Statistical and User
Services
E.K. Foreman

Computer Services
B.J. Harper

Co-ordination and
Management
W. McLennan

Branch

National Accounts
K.R. Blackburn
Public Finance and Prices
L.C. Clements
International and Private Finance
B.J. Dunlop

Demography and Social
M.D. Giles
Manpower
G.I. Neville
Population Census
K.S. Watson

Production and Distribution
T.R. Jones
Agriculture, Transport and Construction
R. Edwards
Classification, Integration and
Enterprise Statistics
R.W. Fergie

Statistical Services
D.C. Leaver
User Services
M.B. Booth
Foreign Trade
A.J. Whittington

Technical Services and Planning
E.W.W. Miller
Applications
D.A. Harding
Operations and Software
B.H. Crook
Technical Consultant
J.V. Crocker

Management Services
J.W. Maurer
Co-ordination
P.G. Howell
Data Management
D.J. Trewin

TOP STRUCTURE AND STAFF—*continued*

The offices in State capitals and in Darwin are headed by:

Sydney	J.E. Dulley
Melbourne	I.M. Cowie
Brisbane	O.M. May
Adelaide	B.E. Leonard
Perth	W.M. Bartlett
Hobart	R. Lakin
Darwin	W.H. Mitchell

APPENDIX 7

EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS: 1979-80, 1980-81 AND ESTIMATES: 1981-82 (\$'000)

	<i>Actual 1979-80</i>	<i>Actual 1980-81</i>	<i>Estimated 1981-82(a)</i>
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries	49 015	(b)58 050	(b)75 200
Overtime	336	464	511
Total subdivision 1	49 351	58 514	75 711
Travel and subsistence	887	1 248	1 639
Office requisites	3 035	3 292	1 869
Postage and telephones	2 883	3 644	3 730
Office services	310	361	592
Publications	1 038	1 047	1 069
Computer services	2 648	3 169	3 508
Payments to agents	2 877	3 616	(b)16 550
Freight and cartage	72	550	343
Furniture and fittings(c)	—	169	220
Incidentals	359	992	1 387
Total subdivision 2	14 109	18 087	30 907
Total division	63 461	76 601	106 618
Special appropriation—Australian Statistician	47	57	61
—ASAC	7	11	11
Total special appropriation	54	68	72
Capital works and services—plant and equipment	527	(d)11 130	(d)4 205
Total expenditure	64 041	87 799	110 895
RECEIPTS			
Proceeds from 'for sale' publications(e)	118	122	145
Proceeds from sale of special compilations of overseas trade statistics	(f)274	130	120
Recovery of costs for use of ABS computers by client organisations	1 955	(g)1 151	1 146
Miscellaneous	120	136	88
Total receipts	2 467	1 539	1 499

(a) As included in Appropriation Bills Nos 1 and 2 except for Special Appropriation.

(b) Includes expenditure associated with 1981 census of population and housing.

(c) Prior to 1980-81, the Department of Administrative Services was responsible for expenditure on this item.

(d) Includes, for purchase of new computer equipment, \$10m in 1980-81 and \$4m in 1981-82.

(e) Excludes receipts by AGPS from sales of ABS publications.

(f) Due to changeover (from 1 July 1979) to a 'billing in advance' system, which led to two years receipts being collected in 1979-80, this figure is higher than normal.

(g) Reduction of services due to transfer by client organisations to their own equipment.

Note: Any differences between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

APPENDIX 8

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAM: 1978-79 TO 1980-81

The following table shows total ABS expenditure for the years 1978-79 to 1980-81 allocated to statistical and service programs. The allocation of certain components of expenditure, e.g. salaries, is reasonably accurate but others, e.g. postage and telephones, are distributed on a pro rata basis. The table also shows an estimate of the cost of individual statistical programs, after allocating costs of service programs according to estimates of their use by individual statistical programs.

Program	1978-79			1979-80			1980-81		
	Estimated	Estimated		Estimated	Estimated		Estimated	Estimated	
	direct expenditure	total expenditure (a)		direct expenditure	total expenditure (a)		direct expenditure	total expenditure (a)	
	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	\$'000	%
Executive	1 232	..	..	1 331	..	..	1 613	..	..
National accounts	984	1 874	3.5	1 090	1 960	3.3	1 246	2 237	3.2
International accounts	1 023	1 533	2.8	1 025	1 596	2.7	1 151	1 721	2.4
Prices	1 366	1 918	3.6	1 478	2 013	3.4	1 896	2 599	3.7
Private finance	744	1 125	2.1	763	1 121	1.9	854	1 288	1.8
Public finance	1 224	2 311	4.3	1 334	2 738	4.6	1 618	3 063	4.3
Agriculture	2 604	5 126	9.5	2 515	4 692	7.9	2 858	5 403	7.7
Construction	1 534	4 062	7.5	1 993	5 564	9.3	1 926	3 848	5.5
Transport	702	1 466	2.7	1 246	2 911	4.9	899	2 427	3.4
Mining (b)	598	1 290	2.4	607	1 497	2.5	717	1 593	2.3
Manufacturing	2 129	4 908	9.1	2 194	4 752	7.9	2 303	4 811	6.8
Internal trade (b)	1 582	3 791	6.9	1 663	4 161	6.9	3 898	10 589	15.0
Economic censuses system	514	..	..	561	..	..	1 557	..	..
Enterprise statistics	699	1 687	3.2	878	2 051	3.4	1 024	2 413	3.4
Classification	534	..	..	557	..	..	646	..	..
Economic statistics integration	2 278	..	..	2 310	..	..	2 604	..	..
Demography	1 083	2 368	4.4	1 218	2 653	4.4	1 351	2 999	4.3
Social surveys and indicators	274	1 164	2.2	316	1 186	2.0	371	1 354	1.9
Social statistics	1 749	4 026	7.5	1 845	4 116	6.9	2 109	4 502	6.4
Manpower	2 277	9 376	17.4	2 676	10 568	17.7	3 164	13 485	19.1
Population census (see below) (c)									
Foreign trade	1 544	3 143	5.8	1 497	3 340	5.6	1 890	4 150	5.9
Data services and analysis	612	655	1.2	551	421	0.7	644	576	0.8
Statistical services	1 196	..	..	1 302	..	..	1 459	..	..
Population survey operations	5 039	..	..	5 758	..	..	6 240	..	..
Information services	2 686	..	..	3 005	..	..	3 549	..	..

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAM: 1978-79 TO 1980-81
(continued)

Program	1978-79			1979-80			1980-81		
	Estimated direct expenditure		Estimated total expenditure (a)	Estimated direct expenditure		Estimated total expenditure (a)	Estimated direct expenditure		Estimated total expenditure (a)
	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	\$'000	%
Computer technical services and planning	n.a.	..	..	1 411	..	..	2 380	..	..
Computer applications	n.a.	..	..	3 702	..	..	4 373	..	..
Computer operations and software	n.a.	..	..	8 787	..	..	8 821	..	..
Total computer services	(d)12 647	..	..	13 899	..	..	15 574	..	..
Co-ordination	927	..	..	988	..	..	1 220	..	..
Data management	312	..	..	390	..	..	471	..	..
Establishments and methods	486	..	..	548	..	..	834	..	..
Finance and general services	3 348	..	..	3 766	..	..	4 255	..	..
Personnel management	1 890	..	..	2 014	..	..	2 379	..	..
Non-ABS(e)	..	2 194	4.1	..	2 420	4.0	..	1 451	2.1
Total excluding population census and capital cost of computer re-equipment	55 815	54 017	100.0	61 318	59 758	100.0	72 322	70 511	100.0
Population census	1 349	3 146	..	2 723	4 283	..	4 584	6 395	..
Computer re-equipment	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 894	10 894	..
Total including population census and capital cost of computer re-equipment	57 164	57 164	..	64 041	64 041	..	87 799	87 799	..

(a) Statistical programs only: includes estimated costs of service programs allocated in accordance with usage on statistical programs.

(b) For internal management purposes, some statistical activities were moved from Internal Trade to the Mining Program during 1980-81. The figures for all three years are now on the basis of this rearranged allocation of activities between the two programs.

(c) Excluded from distribution because of large annual variations during the quinquennial cycle.

(d) 1978-79 expenditure not based on current program structure.

(e) General services to other government departments and agencies of which the major component is the provision of ABS computer services.

Note: Revisions to the distribution of expenditure in some programs in 1978-79 and 1979-80 are due to the availability of more accurate costing data. Any differences between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.
n.a.-not available

~~26 AUG 1967~~

~~7 AUG 1967~~

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